GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1100
ANSWERED ON:24.10.2008
FARMING ON PRIVATE/ PUBLIC LAND UNDER NREGS
Krishnadas Shri N.N.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for relaxation in the existing norms for the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is planning to make such relaxation in the scheme to involve the farming activity on private/public land; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a) & (b): The Ministry received a proposal from Chief Minister of Rajasthan for enhancement of the number of days of guaranteed wage employment under NREGA from 100 to 200 days. Another proposal was received from Shri Lalit Kishore Chaturvedi, Member Parliament (Rajya Sabha) for increasing the number of days of employment in Scheduled Tribe areas. Both the proposals have been examined and they have been informed that NREGA provides for a legal guarantee for 100 days of wage employment in a financial year. However, Section 3(4) of the NREG Act, 2005, provides that the Central Government or the State Government may, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make provisions for securing work to every adult member of a household under a scheme for any period beyond the period guaranteed under Section 3(1) of the Act, as may be expedient.

(c) & (d): Activities of work which can be taken up under NREGA have been listed in Para 1 of Schedule-I of the Act. Sub Para (iv) of Para 1 of Schedule-I has been amended vide Notification dated 6.3.2007 to provide for the following activities on individual lands:

`Provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities on the land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes or to Below Poverty Line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana of the Government of India.`